1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	TRINETTE G. KENT (State Bar No. 22202 10645 North Tatum Blvd., Suite 200-192 Phoenix, AZ 85028 Telephone: (480) 247-9644 Facsimile: (480) 717-4781 E-mail: tkent@lemberglaw.com  Lemberg & Associates, LLC 1100 Summer Street Stamford, CT 06905 Telephone: (203) 653-2250 Facsimile: (203) 653-3424  Attorneys for Plaintiff, John Pelot	20)
11	John Pelot	
12		
13	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
14	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
15		
16	John Pelot,	Case No.: '14CV1779 JAH RBB
17	Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES
18 19	VS.	1. VIOLATION OF FAIR DEBT
	ARGNA 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT,
20	ARS National Services, Inc.; and DOES 1-10, inclusive,	15 U.S.C. § 1692 ET. SEQ;
21		JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
22	Defendants.	
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28		
		COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

For this Complaint, Plaintiff, John Pelot, by undersigned counsel, states as follows:

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. This action arises out of Defendants' repeated violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* ("FDCPA") in their illegal efforts to collect a consumer debt.
  - 2. Supplemental jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that Defendants transact business here and a substantial portion of the acts giving rise to this action occurred here.

## **PARTIES**

- 4. Plaintiff, John Pelot (hereafter "Plaintiff"), is an adult individual residing in Leesburg, Florida, and is a "consumer" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).
- 5. Defendant, ARS National Services, Inc. (hereafter "ARS"), is a company with an address of , 960 South Andreasen Drive, Suite B, Escondido, California 92029, operating as a collection agency, and is a "debt collector" as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).
- 6. Does 1-10 (the "Collectors") are individual collectors employed by ARS and whose identities are currently unknown to the Plaintiff. One or more of the

Collectors may be joined as parties once their identities are disclosed through discovery.

7. ARS at all times acted by and through one or more of the Collectors.

## **ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS**

### A. The Debt

- 8. A person other than Plaintiff (the "Debtor") allegedly incurred a financial obligation (the "Debt") to an original creditor (the "Creditor").
- 9. Plaintiff is not the Debtor, does not know the Debtor, and is in no way responsible for repayment of the Debt.
- 10. The Debt arose from services provided by the Creditor which were primarily for family, personal or household purposes and which meets the definition of a "debt" under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).
- 11. The Debt was purchased, assigned or transferred to ARS for collection, or ARS was employed by the Creditor to collect the Debt.
- 12. ARS attempted to collect the Debt and, as such, engaged in "communications" as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

## B. ARS Engages in Harassment and Abusive Tactics

13. Within the last year, ARS began calling Plaintiff on his residential telephone [352-323-XXXX] in an attempt to collect the Debt.

- 14. During an initial conversation with Plaintiff, ARS attempted to verify the correct name and social security of the Debtor.
- 15. Plaintiff advised ARS that even though he and the Debtor have the same name, the social security number attached to the Debt did not belong to him; therefore, he was not responsible for repayment of the Debt. As such, Plaintiff directed ARS to stop calling him.
- 16. Despite having been so informed, ARS continued to place multiple calls to Plaintiff.

# <u>COUNT I</u> <u>VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT</u> <u>15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.</u>

- 17. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 18. The Defendants contacted Plaintiff in regards to a third party's debt on numerous occasions, without being asked to do so, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692b(3).
- 19. Defendants engaged in behavior the natural consequence of which was to harass, oppress, or abuse Plaintiff in connection with the collection of a debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d.

- 20. The Defendants caused a phone to ring repeatedly and engaged the Plaintiff in telephone conversations, with the intent to annoy and harass, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(5).
- 21. Defendants used an unfair and unconscionable means to collect the debt, in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1692f.
- 22. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendants constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA, including every one of the above-cited provisions.
  - 23. Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of the Defendants' violations.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against the Defendants as follows:

- A. Actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1) against the Defendants;
- B. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. \$1692k(a)(2)(A) against the Defendants;
- C. Costs of litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.§ 1692k(a)(3) against the Defendants; and
- D. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

#### TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

1	DATED: July 29, 2014	TRINETTE G. KENT
2	DiffED: July 29, 2014	
3		By: <u>/s/ Trinette G. Kent</u> Trinette G. Kent, Esq.
4		Lemberg Law, LLC
5		Attorney for Plaintiff, John Pelot
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28		6 COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES